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WE ARE IN THIS FIGHT TO STAY!



WILL YOU HELP US WIN THE DAY?

Industrial Worker

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

VOL. 1—No. 1

One Dollar a Year

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1916

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Whole Number 1

WILL THE SAB CAT REMEMBER?

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO FOR FORD AND SUHR THIS SUMMER? A CALL FOR ACTION.

Have you noticed how much better are the conditions in the hop fields and other agricultural jobs since that eventful Sunday in August, 1913? Did you ever stop to think that Ford and Suhr, because of their efforts to organize the slaves on Durst's hop field, are paying their liberty for the benefits you are now receiving?

What are you going to do this summer to repay those two men for having secured for you the benefits of slightly better accommodations? For having water brought to you in the fields instead of having to pay 5 cents a glass for poisonous, so-called lemonade; and for a State Commission with police power to force the cleaning up of camps, not only in the hop field but on construction jobs as well?

The powers that be will tell you that it was out of the goodness of its heart that the commission cleaned up the camps for the workers, and not through fear of any organized effort on the part of the workers themselves. That is what some of the members of the California Housing and Immigration Commission would like to make us believe. But it is bunk, all bunk, to be swallowed by those workers who use their brains only when they sit down.

Some of the reasons for the existence of that Commission are: To have no more Wheatland hop-riots, if possible; to show the farmer and contractor that it is to their material benefit to have clean camps to house their slaves in, not only to keep down strikes and other troubles, but so the workers may rest well and thus be able to produce more profits. Get the following pamphlets from the Housing and Immigration Commission, 525 Market st., San Francisco, Cal.:

Report of Industrial Accident Commission; Report on Unemployment; Advisory Pamphlet to Owners and Superintendents;

Report of Relief of Destitute Unemployed. You will then be positive that the Commission has no interest in you other than to keep down trouble and to find more profitable means of extracting more dollars from your hide in the most scientific manner possible.

Whose fault was it that Durst forced the wages of the hop pickers back to the old scale of 85 cents per hundred pounds? It was the fault of the workers who had not learned the value of organization. Their weakness caused the death of two workers and the railroadings of two others to the penitentiary for life.

You can get work in the hop fields now. They are looking for men to plow hops at this time. Get there, keep your mouth shut and give them what a farmer loves: a nice green field. Of course, it might not be the article he wants to grow, but it can be green. Stay with him right up until the last hop is picked, (that is if you decide to let him grow hops). If you stay with them one season through, you will not need to bother for the release of Ford and Suhr, the rascals who will do that for you and will save you lots of lung power for some other job.

There has been quite a wave of copper wire stealing in California, Oregon and Washington this last winter, and the powers that be are slightly scared that quite a lot of it is not going to be sold. In fact, one paper in Sacramento admitted it by running a story to the effect that one man who had pleaded guilty to wire stealing said that he had stolen it to sell.

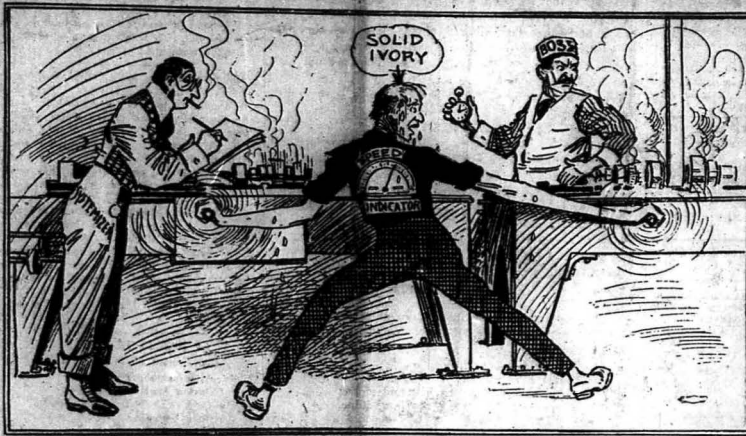
They need not be afraid that any of it will be used to stick into fruit trees, grape vines or anything like that, for does not the warning sent out by the Ford and Suhr Defense Committee plainly state:

"As long as Ford and Suhr are in prison, don't stick copper nails or tacks in fruit trees or grape vines. It hurts them."

Read it again. Isn't that guarantee enough for our good kind masters that we would not do any such thing? So, why should they worry?

Another thing, we are giving those two boys \$5 per month each for tobacco and so forth and the sack is down to about \$30. How would it be if some of you were to help out in part of the big stake the boss is kind enough to let you make, so as to keep this fund going?

Yours in the scrap,
C. L. LAMBERT,
Wheatland Defense Committee,
1108 2nd St., Sacramento, Cal.



LABOR EFFICIENCY! ONE CONTINUOUS ROUND OF PLEASURE!

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

ANALYSED BY JAMES P. THOMPSON

The Commission on Industrial Relations was created by an act of congress August 23, 1912. It was instructed to "inquire into the general condition of labor" and "seek to discover the underlying causes of dissatisfaction in the industrial situation and report its conclusions thereon."

The question arises, what had occurred, or what was happening to cause congress to take such action?

To let in a flood of light upon that question one needs but to remember that in the first part of that same year 1912 there occurred that great I. W. W. strike of Textile Workers in Lawrence, Mass. That battle, with the condition it revealed startled the world and, among other things, caused a wave of protest to sweep the country against starvation wages for women.

Minimum wage commission, committees to investigate the relation between starvation wages and white slavery, etc., began meeting nearly everywhere.

It takes the I. W. W. to start things, and rest assured that had not social unrest begun to take the form of revolutionary industrial unionism there would have been no Commission on Industrial Relations and no report.

The commission was created because, in the eyes of the robber class, social unrest is becoming dangerously great and is assuming menacing shape. They feel that something must be done to stave off a revolution.

The facts brought out by the commission will be startling to many. They show the enormous amount of poverty and misery, murder for profit, robbery, corruption and slavery that exists in the United States in this twentieth century.

It is well to note that Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the commission, in his letter to the sixty-fourth congress said:

"The plan of submitting none but undisputed facts in the final report of the commission has been faithfully adhered to."

We will first examine the report of Basil M. Manly, Director of Research and Investigation, which was signed by Frank P. Walsh, John B. Lennon, James O'Connell and Austin B. Garretson.

Mr. Manly in his introduction emphasizes the fundamental importance of industrial relations as follows:

"The immediate effects of the form and character of industrial organization are, however, greater and closer to the lives and happiness of all classes of citizens than even the form and character of our political institutions. The ordinary man, whether employer or worker, has relatively little contact with the government. If he and his family are well fed, well housed and well clothed, and if he can pay for the education of his children, he can exist even under an autocratic monarchy with little concern, until some critical situation develops in which his own liberty is interfered with or until he is deprived of life or property by the overwhelming power of his tyrannical ruler. But his industrial relations determine every day what he and

his family shall eat, what they shall wear, how many hours of his life he shall labor and in what surroundings."

Real revolutionists understand that industrial relations determine to a great extent all other relations and arrangements. That in fact "the economic mode of production and exchange forms the basis of the whole social structure." Many utopians think they are revolutionary dealers with causes when they talk about the political arrangement or even the marriage relation! There is food for thought for such persons, and for all others, in this statement by Mr. Manly:

"Political freedom can exist only where there is industrial freedom; political democracy only where there is industrial democracy."

The importance of the workers in industry, the industrial workers in modern society, is strongly emphasized in this report. For example, Mr. Manly says:

"The lack of proper industrial relationship and the existence of bad labor conditions is a matter of the most serious moment during times of peace, but events of the past year have demonstrated how enormously their menace to the welfare of a nation is increased during a war."

As present European war is being fought on the farms and in the factories as much as in the trenches.

In succeeding issues of the Industrial Worker we will examine other parts of this report. We will aim to print the very parts that the master class are so anxious to suppress.

COAL MINE ACCIDENTS SHOW NO DECREASE

By JOS. J. ETTOR

Mine Inspectors' Reports Show Many Fatal Accidents in 1915.

Seventy wives were widowed and 158 children were deprived of fathers by mine accidents in four of the five Lackawanna county districts during 1915 as shown by the reports of Mine Inspectors L. M. Evans, of the First district; S. J. Phillips, of the Third district; Jenkin T. Reese, of the Fourth district, and Augustus McDade, of the Fifth district. The report of E. J. Moore, First district inspector, was published a few days ago. David T. Williams took hold in the Sixth district January 1 and there is no report due from him.

A decrease in the number of fatal accidents per tons of coal produced is shown in the reports in four of the five Lackawanna county districts. In the First district was 124,967 and in the Fourth district it was 124,967 and in the Fifth district it was 238,146, the latter district having the best record.

The number of fatal accidents in the four districts was 103; the number of nonfatal accidents was 201, making a grand total of 304. There were 32,151 men employed inside and outside in the four districts. Fifty collieries and 115 mines are located in these districts.

—Scranton Times, March 17.

An effort is made in the above report to

show "a decrease in the number of fatal accidents per tons of coal produced," etc.—but the fact is that the figures only prove that the bosses were able to increase the output at the cost of as many men's lives and limbs as heretofore.

One of the most serious conditions that face the coal diggers of this region—of which the above reports but four districts in one county—is the great danger to life and limb.

Each day the local press chronicles two or more serious accidents in which one or two lives are lost or men permanently injured.

These benevolent gentlemen of the mines consider life cheaper than so much cabbage. The old U. M. W. of A. has succeeded in lobbying a law thru the Legislature and the Senate that, we are told, meets with the approval of those who have been broken up.

The law has been in operation only since Jan. 1, 1916, and already the victims of the daily accidents in these hell holes are cursing the law and its sponsors.

No better plan to enslave workers could have been devised by the joint efforts of labor leaders and capitalist politicians—not the very best it's a poor makeshift. But it has these advantages for "brother capital":

First—All workers employed by any company that has gone into the "voluntary" scheme must pass a rigid physical examination and thus the employer is given the pick of men. Those who have been broken up and worn out are sent to the scrap heap as so much junk.

Second—In order to "insure" the workers, the employers get the names of all their nearest relatives and dependents, where born, etc. Against the rebellious workers who will not wait until the expiration of the sacred contract of four years entered into secretly by the employers and labor fakery—this offers the most perfect blacklist that ever workers could be cursed with. Heretofore if a worker got into a row with a mine boss he could quit the job and by changing his name and if he were a miner—exchange mine papers with some fellow worker, and go to work elsewhere, probably for the same company in another of the many mines all of these companies have in this region.

But the union leaders in a compact with the bosses have headed that off, for not only is there the insurance record, but the worker must pass muster before the doctor, and the majority of these serve as intelligence bureaus for the employers.

Third—The law does away with all damage suits and all expenses and bother into which they necessarily involve the corporations. If a man was hurt before, he could sue his employer in court. As much as the courts are in the hands and obey the instructions of the lords of the mines, if the worker had any kind of a case he could always find a lawyer that could get him something, either by getting a part or all of the damages claimed or by forcing the company to compromise out of court. In any event, if the companies

(Continued on page four)

THE I. W. W. IN THE NORTH WOODS

NORTHERN LUMBERJACKS ASK WESTERN WOODSMEN WILL THEY ORGANIZE. GET BUSY NOW.

Last December saw the first concerted effort toward organizing the lumber workers of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. How low, degraded and abject the workers can become in this great industry is clearly ascertained through a study of general conditions in that territory before the I. W. W. began marshaling an organization of the workers to combat the organization of the bosses. Wages were \$12.00 and \$18.00 a month for general work. The \$18.00 a month was for men who stayed the season. That is, the boss bet you six dollars a month that you would quit, or he would fire you—before the season was over. Needless to say the boss almost always won.

Sawyers, corresponding to the fallers in the West, were getting about \$18.00 a month with a "heads & win, tails you lose," bet of five or six dollars. Other wages were in proportion. All men were paid a "scoop line" income. The companies were generous only with abuse, work and vermin.

Men walked as much as six and seven miles from camp. It was cheaper for the men to move that distance twice a day than for the companies to maintain a road one year. After this like, to settle the good breakfast they did not get, the men worked ten and eleven hours in snow, often two to four feet deep. Necessarily instead of the uniforms—badges of slavery—worn by the western lumberjacks, such as slickers to meet the cloud bursts, known as Oregon mists, the Minnesota lumber workers had to wear

as a thief with a monopoly at the camp owner in Minnesota. A worker could buy nearly enough clothing to protect himself from the Minnesota winter for a month to a month and a half's pay.

Those who have worked in the woods on the Coast will immediately think of the difficulty of keeping clean when wearing so much wool. (There is no difficulty—they don't!) The bunk houses are so terrible that it is safe to say that no lumberjack has ever, anywhere on the Pacific Coast, seen anything to compare with them. The writer knows this is apparently a strong statement but it is true. The best bunk houses in this territory are inferior to the worst on the Coast.

Sanitary precautions! One example is enough although not noteworthy here. Smallpox broke out on January 22 at Camp 36, International Lumber Co. The men were not vaccinated until February 8 and then only when they agreed to force vaccination.

Such were the conditions resulting from absolute lack of organization, except that the minimum wages last year were \$5 and \$8 a month. In four months the wages have been nearly doubled as the result of I. W. W. agitation. Organization and the I. W. W. cut its tongue amputated and its claws sharpened, have produced results as follows.

This summer we are going to organize the few summer camps that will be working the drives and saw mills. The boss hates the I. W. W. He is doing and will do all in his power to hold his czarship over the workers, but the I. W. W. is in the lumber-woods of the Central North to stay, and grow, and win.

Lumber workers of the North and South and East and West, let us get together for decent conditions. Unorganized "our vast number is our weakness." Organized we can demand, not beg. Organized, we can become men with homes and friends, not homeless, scorned hoboes and outcasts. We cannot expect any one to do anything for us. Let us do things for ourselves.

We have a dream of the North and South and East and West clapping hands, strong and steadfast, in one mighty wage-raising, hour-lowering, emancipating union of lumber workers. Will you do your share to raise your own wages by organizing to raise all wages and finally abolish the present system of master and slave, boot clapping hands, strong and steadfast, in one mighty wage-raising, hour-lowering, emancipating union of lumber workers. Will you do your share to raise your own wages by organizing to raise all wages and finally abolish the present system of master and slave, boot clapping hands, strong and steadfast, in one mighty wage-raising, hour-lowering, emancipating union of lumber workers. Will you do your share to raise your own wages by organizing to raise all wages and finally abolish the present system of master and slave, boot clapping hands, strong and steadfast, in one mighty wage-raising, hour-lowering, emancipating union of lumber workers.

We await the answer of the West. Let's get together!

J. A. McDONALD,
Remitt, Minn.

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HELLO, FELLOW WORKERS!

The Industrial Worker greets you without an apology. If this, our first issue, is poor you can make the next number good. If it is good you can make each issue better. The future of this paper rests largely with you.

Our field of operation will be as broad as the working-class itself, but we seek support chiefly from the West and particularly from the Pacific Coast.

We aim to aid in the industrial organization of the world's workers. We hope to help all toilers in their daily battles with "the masters of the bread." We seek to spur the mental and physical slackers to greater class effort. We will try to teach in simple, forceful, working class language that existing institutions must be overthrown before the producers can come into their own.

To the end that all our space may be used for the purposes outlined, and in order to spare our readers any further appeals for financial assistance we ask that each local union and individual member, as well as each rebellious slave outside our ranks, consider this as a demand for an immediate bundle order or a subscription.

Opposition will but serve to strengthen us. The cooperation of our fellow workers will make us doubly strong. Solidarity means more than mere words. Will you help your class, your union, yourself—by boosting the Industrial Worker?

THE INDUSTRIAL WORKER.

We have taken the name Industrial Worker and are following out the general style of the former paper by that name. In this way we do not lose entirely the tremendous publicity gained from March, 1909, onward for more than four years. Thru the distribution of hundreds of thousands of copies by energetic workers in every Coast city and village, and in every logging and construction camp, the name Industrial Worker became a familiar one. It may be some time before we can make so good a showing, but that, at least, is our immediate goal.

This is a new Industrial Worker, not a revival of the old. We hope to retain all the good features of the old "Worker" and to profit by its mistakes as well. Proposals for making this a better paper are now, and always will be, in order. This is your paper in the fullest sense of the word.

IMMEDIATE DEMANDS.

We want a live press committee to act in each local. We want interested individuals to furnish us with news of the class struggle.

We want clippings dealing with the labor movement. Mark plainly with name and date of paper from which they are taken.

We want original articles on subjects of interest to the workers. Make them brief.

We want some poetry, original as well as clipped, but be merciful.

We want labor jokes, apt quotations and snappy sentences to fill in column ends.

We want cartoons drawn in India ink, and ideas for cartoons also.

We want carefully chosen names and addresses for use in mailing sample copies.

We want bundle orders.

We want subscriptions.

We would not refuse donations.

We want this paper to grow.

All this because—

We want Industrial Freedom.

GOOD ENEMIES.

The present prayer of the I. W. W. is "Give us this day good enemies."

Good enemies are an asset; lukewarm friends are a double curse. Just as humane slave holders clinched tighter the chains on the chattel slave so do the "friends of labor" prove an obstacle in the path of our freedom. Labor has no friend save labor. He who is not for us is against us, despite hypocritical confessions of friendship.

The Los Angeles Times and the Seattle Times have done more to solidify labor than all the mandarin blessings of the editorial sheep herded in the Scripps-McRae Newspaper League.

The late Colonel Blethen was a good enemy. He lied about us, he maligned us, he twisted and contorted our every action, but always he fought us. General Otis also has been our good press agent in the same way. We know definitely where these enemies stand. Always and everywhere they are our avowed foes. They seek no favors from our hand and would grant no mercy had they power to crush us. Their presence forces labor to unite. We welcome such enemies.

But we pray for relief from our "friends," and especially from those who say, "The I. W. W. is all right, but—" and then would have us drop everything worth fighting for. In deference to our principles we cannot compromise with the reform elements in society. They would lead us to wade knee-deep along the sorghum-covered path of social sentimentalism into the swamp of reaction. Typified by the Seattle Star—the dung-digging penny maligner—they are "friends" only when they can use us to help make a six-day sensation, and so boost their own stock. They are not with us in anything essential.

We declare therefore, "To hell with friends, give us this day good enemies."

INCOMPLETE.

This issue of the Industrial Worker is incomplete. It lacks a new song to dedicate its birth; a song expressive of the thoughts and feelings of the migratory workers.

One there was who could have written such a poem-song, but the young life of fellow worker Joe Hill was taken by the red-handed murderers of the State of Utah. For the absence of a dedicative song thanks should be given to Governor Spry and his kind.

Joe Hill is gone, but who can say that his life was spent in vain. The pendulum does not always swing in one direction.

A gauge of our loss and a measure of the man may be had by reading the short and simple will of our murdered fellow worker:

"My will is easy to decide
For I have nothing to divide.
My kin don't need to fuss and moan;
Moss does not cling to a rolling stone.
My body? Oh, if I could choose
I would let ashes it reduce
And let the merry breezes blow
My dust to where some flowers grow.
Perhaps some fading flower then
Would come to life and bloom again.
This is my last and final will,
Good luck to all of you,
JOE HILL."

LEGISLATION.

For a number of years the workers on the Pacific Coast, thru the I. W. W. and other organizations, have been fighting the band of robbers known as "employment sharks."

The State of Washington now has a law against taking fees for furnishing jobs, and to this law the political saviours of the workers are pointing as an example of the benefits gained by striking at the ballot box.

Several things are overlooked by these politicians. First there is the fact that the sharks are still running their game, less openly, to be sure, but with more craft attacked.

To get a job you may have to pay an exorbitant price for a bed, or a high initiation fee to a club that promises work to all members, or else give a rake-off for the privilege of sitting in a crooked card game in a "free" employment bureau, or in some manner fall in with the many little skin games in which you bet which shell the elusive job is under.

Next there is the fact that the legislation in question has given the employers' associations a stronger "strangle-hold" on labor and an added chance to use the blacklist. Indeed, that is one of the purposes of the law, and the crippling of the smaller employers by making it difficult for them to obtain men.

We waste no tears on the "cockroach" employer, but under present conditions the workers must slave for small as well as large bosses, so any difficulty in making connections with the job tends to work a hardship on those who toil.

The evils removed by this law are fewer than those caused by its enactment, with the one over-balancing evil common to all such legislation, in its crippling of initiative by causing workers to rely upon forces not of their own making.

Without this law the employment shark evil in its old form would probably be with us yet, but the very abuses complained of would have rapidly forced a remedy along constructive lines. That remedy is the formation of labor bureaus in the local unions and the creating of a condition where workers can be hired only from the union hall.

Whether labor legislation be good or bad, this last mentioned move has still to be made. It is a move that is necessary to our present interests and absolutely vital to our program of industrial control and management.

BIRTH CONTROL.

Somehow or other we don't believe that babies are a "gift of God" to be accepted submissively. We don't believe that woman is merely a sock-darning incubator. We don't believe in censorship of the matter even though attempted suppression will create more discussion.

We do know that large families live in small houses and small families live in large houses. We do know that too many babies lower the laborer's standard of living and make mental and physical prostitutes of the adult family members. We do know that a high birth rate means a correspondingly high death rate.

We think that society as a whole should have nothing to say regarding the prevention of conception until it guarantees some measure of well being to those who are born. We think that better babies are to be preferred to more babies. We think that the world progresses only as man consciously controls his condition of life.

And we find that the bitterest opponents of birth control are the priests, who have no children; the idle rich, who raise poodles; the capitalists who hire child labor; and the landlords whose incomes are derived from apartment houses bearing the sign "No children allowed."

DON'T GO TO EXTREMES.

By B. E. NILSSON.

"I agree with a good deal of what you say, but you go too far. You go to extremes." That is what he said. Then he decided that he had business on the other side of the river, and, as there was no bridge or ferry, he just dove in and proceeded to swim across. When he got half-way he suddenly remembered his motto: "Don't go to extremes," and he stopped right there for fear he would go too far. He is there yet.

Moral: Go and do likewise—if you are afraid of going too far.

Truth is always an extreme. Any old lie will serve for the other extreme. Everything between these extremes is a mixture of truth and lies. To fear extremes is to fear taking the truth straight.

Millions have been killed in the European war. Other millions have been injured in such a way as to make life worthless. It will take the workers of the whole world many years to rebuild what war has torn down. Wonder if European workers will still allow themselves to be fooled by that delusion about the sacredness of life and property when the war-frenzy is over.

Our Socialist friends had much to say about what great good things Carranza was going to do for Mexicans. Why are they so strangely silent about it now? Were they struck dumb by the discovery that another "Revolutionary Government" is rotten before it well started? Why should that surprise anyone who knows anything at all about politics?

JUST LEGISLATE.

(Anonymous in Truth Seeker)

Are your neighbors very bad?
Pass a law!
Do they smoke? Do they chew?
Are they bothering you?
Don't they do as you would do?
Pass a law!
Are your wages awful low?
Pass a law!
Are the prices much too high?
Do the wife and babies cry
'Cause the turkeys all roost high?
Pass a law!

Are the lights a-burning red?
Pass a law!
Paint 'em green, or paint 'em white!
Close up all the places tight!
My! Our town is such a sight!
Pass a law!

No matter what the trouble is,
Pass a law!
Goodness sakes but ain't it awful?
My! What are we going to do?
Almost anything ain't lawful,
And the judge is human, too!
Pass a law!

KEEP THE SILENT DRAMA MOVING.

What good is noise if action is not set also? Is it beneficial to the I. W. W. if we all sit around and do nothing but talk? Don't you know it takes gumption and work to sell I. W. W. papers and literature? It also takes work to talk men into joining the I. W. W. It takes active participation to drive off the job a savage who could never be of any benefit to our kind. We who are already in this revolutionary movement know that no matter what method we use to educate the working class it is beneficial to the future of the I. W. W.

If a scissorbliss become so tired that he cannot keep his job, or a slave driver should suddenly turn better towards our kind, or if a miserable worker with a brain like Rockefeller and a pocket as empty as ours should be worried into thinking that there are other people on earth who need higher wages in order to get more and better food, clothing and sanitary homes in which to live happier lives, it is the result of someone's activity.

Remember that an enemy to one is an enemy to all, and that action removes our enemies. Therefore, we say, you sub cats get a move on; you sub hustlers likewise; and literature sellers the same. You who are out of work and on the street, pick out one of our enemies and combine on him. Make him think all the people in the world are out of work and that the bosses are trying to work the people to death. Make him realize our misery and then show him what could be done if we were all in One Big Union.

If we wish to win we must get a hostile on. Each one should do that which he is most capable of doing. Action counts and all should act. Sub cats do more sabotaging, literature sellers sell more literature, and sub hustlers get more subs. If your specialty is making scissors travel so they can learn something, keep them all on the road; or if it is turning bad bosses into good ones, tame all of them. Organizers should do more organizing and editors should keep our papers full of educational articles, with plenty of revolutionary job news, too.

No matter where you are or what you do, remember, it is action, and action only, that will bring home the bacon for the One Big Union.
— Press Committee, Babes, Aris.
Editor—Do you know how to run a newspaper?
Applicant—No, sir.
Editor—Well, I'll tell you. I guess you've had experience—Puck.

BRAIN FURNITURE.

By J. A. McDONALD.

If a getting hauled by every damn abolition for labor fakes a funeral oration over the corpse of the I. W. W. and the corpse arises and swats the preacher on the jaw.

Between the mule and the housewife worker who is always hauling his many damn abolition for the mule which has a kick, at least in one end.

Workers! "Fight for your country," but be damned sure the country is yours when you are through fighting.

OPPORTUNITY THUNDERS.

By COVINGTON HALL.

Never before in human history has any section of the Working Class ever been placed in the position of the workers of the United States and Canada, for opportunity is literally thundering at their doors.

The Steel and Iron Industries are already working overtime and the bosses thereof are making profits they never dreamed of in the wildest flights of their long-filled imaginations. The Bomb and Powder, Trusts are doing still better. The Lumber Trust will soon be running its mills and woods night and day.

On top of all this the World Murderist has shut off the American Labor Market not less than one million men annually, while, according to the President of the Standard Oil's New York "City Bank," it takes 500,000 fresh men every year to meet the man-waste of American industry. Add to these 1,500,000 men those the Plunderband will be forced to send into Mexico or elsewhere with the Army and Navy and you will get a faint idea of the fix the Bosses are in.

Connect up with this the fact that a great Agrarian Revolt is already in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana and is fast spreading into other Southern and Western States, and you will surely see that I am not wrong when I state that opportunity is literally thundering at labor's doors!

Opportunity to advance wages; opportunity to shorten hours, even to the long-dreamed-of Eight Hour Day; opportunity to better living conditions North, East, South and West.

Never before in history did Labor have in its hands such a golden opportunity and when it will recur again so can say. NOW is the time to organize and ask the bosses to "come across with the goods."

Will Labor do it? Will you do your share toward helping your class grasp the golden opportunity the War-crazed Masters of Europe have placed in the reach of the American Proletariat?

O "Old Guard" of the Rebel One Big Union, I appeal to you to make one last and mighty effort to line up the sleeping Workers for the Industrial Democracy!

To every Red Socialist in the land, I appeal that they fall in and in press and on platform awaken the Workers to the fateful hour we are passing, a great opportunity that is even now within their reach!

O Rebels of the Coming Day, in our Mother Labor's mighty name, I appeal to all of you to unite and carry the Crimson Flag of Freedom on to Victory!

Workers of the World, Unite! You Have Nothing but Your Chains to lose, a Work to Gain!

HARKEN! OH! YE "WOBS."

(By RARE TEABONE.)

Now, look here, "Wobs," do you expect This local's going to thrive? On hot air, talk and tommy-rot? You siffen when you arrive?

Well, if you do, then you have got Another guess a-coming. For it takes books that are paid up To keep this local running.

Now, when you read this, don't get mad And go out on the booze. But dig your hand down in your jeans And pay your local dues.

Do you mean to say that is a month You can't care up for this big? That in the space of thirty days You can't produce ten "Wobs"?

Now, "Wobs," you know that all that talk Is nothing but punk rot. That somehow you can raise the change Each month as well as not.

And how the hell do you suppose We're going to pay the rent? There's lights and literature to buy, They're not by heaven sent.

The books that wise the "Scissor Bill" And awaken the "Scissoring," That make the "Scissor Bill" a "Wob," Hell! You know what I mean.

It takes real cash to get these things. They're not as free as grapes. So hustle round and pay your dues. Don't sit there on your pants.

For the only time you can't pay dues Is when you're in the "can." Oh! "Wobblies," rise and shake a leg. Do your part like a man.

So hustle out and get these dime. You can if you but choose. Go show your feet, do anything. Oh! "Wobblies," pay your dues!

"UNION SCABERY."

There has been trouble on between the Cooks and Waiters' Union and the St. Germain Bakery at 4th Ave. and Pike St., Seattle, for some time. The cooks and waiters are out while the union bakers continue to make bread. The union pickets are on the job and have the pleasure of seeing the union bakers going to work every day while the scabs are looking out of the window wondering which is the biggest scab.

The bakers' delegates to the Labor Council the other day requested that the pickets be withdrawn until the merged contract expires on the first of May.

The above scarcely needs comment in this day of social production. The I. W. W. says "Pull those good union bakers off that job. Either be a union man or a mouse." Nuff said!

BRAWLEY WORKERS GET DIRTY DEAL.

Again there is trouble with the city fathers in Brawley, California. Pat Callahan and four other workers are in jail in El Centro awaiting trial on a charge of which they are innocent. They are held over to the higher court under \$500 bonds each.

On February 22 these fellow workers were arrested by the marshals because they were on a train going out of the valley in search of work. Next morning they were given ten days on the chain gang. They refused to work for nothing and so were put on a diet of bread and water. Here was where hell for the marshals began.

The fellow workers kept the whole neighborhood awake all that night and the next night. On the third night and for two nights thereafter the marshals turned the fire hose upon them but that only made them shout all the more. They would sleep all day and sing all night.

The people in the neighborhood made a complaint and the city fathers told the boys they would be given four meals a day if they would quit the noise. The fellow workers agreed to do so.

Previous to their arrest there had been some windows broken in Brawley, so in order to get something on the boys a charge of destroying property was made against them and they were taken to the higher court in El Centro, the county seat.

The penalty for the crime is from sixty days to five years in the State of California. It takes money to buy law, fellow workers, and Local 439 appeals to you to help all you can. We can't let these boys go over the road for nothing.

TOM RYAN,

Secretary L. U. 439, I. W. W.
P. O. Box 485, Brawley, Calif.

THE MOVIES IN CALIFORNIA.

On Friday, March 7th, the Reliance Film Company, of Los Angeles, employed 2,500 men in the production of a very costly picture. Wages were \$150 and lunch, men to report on the grounds promptly at six the next morning. Upon their arrival the men worked until 1:45 p. m. when they were allowed 20 minutes for lunch. They were called until about 3 o'clock when agitation was started to quit. Cries of "Let's go home," started a rush of about 500 men to the wardrobe to change clothes. Others soon followed and the bosses got wild. They shouted, "For God's sake, come back to work. Do you want to spoil a thirty cent dollar picture?" We've only one more scene so please go back to work." But cries of "stick" held all but a few, so the bosses took a small picture and called it off.

On the following Tuesday another 1,500 men were employed at \$225, with orders to report for work at six o'clock the next morning. This meant that the men would have to walk three and one-half miles, without breakfast, to work. They worked hard all day but at 7 p. m. began to get restless. Officials of the company did not seem to know how long the men were expected to work. The climax came when members of the I. W. W. held a song meeting, at the conclusion of which there was a grand, concerted rush for the wardrobe. Neither the officials nor the police could stem the tide or force the men back to work, so the miserable pittance of \$225 for 17 hours work was handed out. The Los Angeles Record stated that 45 men were hurt during the day and a score injured at night, and the police are alleged to have said that many who were hurt had fainted from hunger and malnutrition and not from injuries received.

Inefficiency of the Reliance Company lengthens the actual working day for forcing men to stand around, sometimes about 12 hours, in the hot sun, in order to work long past their meal time, in one instance until 2:30 p. m. An added grievance is the existence of many police, plain clothes men and stool pigeons around the ground with bills ready to crack the skull of the first man to object to the rotten conditions. At least 50 extra police are there, not for the purpose of suppressing crime but to keep men working for companies that maintain unbearable conditions, this in spite of the fact that the police chief recently put in a plea for 300 more men for the Los Angeles department.

These conditions and our agitation are commencing to create the sentiment, for organization of men working in the movies. On March 11 a meeting was held and a committee of fifteen elected for the purpose of further action. It is proposed to demand \$3 for 8 hours, with time and a half for overtime, just as soon as the men are in a position to enforce the demand. We now await an opportunity to force the Movie Barons to their knees.

Press Committee, L. U. 402, I. W. W.
Los Angeles, Cal.

ON THE TRAIL OF EMANCIPATION.

By RARE TEABONE.

Fellow Worker Duncan McDougal argued with a Fresno Police Judge several days ago as to the justice of a vagrancy charge as applied to him, and won his way to freedom. "I am looking for work, but cannot find it," said McDougal. "I was simply walking down the street on my way to I. W. W. headquarters when arrested. I can plead guilty to being poor, but that is my worst crime."

"Well, that is considerable of a crime these days," remarked the magistrate, "I'm about half guilty myself. Case dismissed."

Jobs for "Wobbs"—Get Busy!

As stated on the proposed electric line to Centerville, the Fresno Interurban Company will build from the end of its present line to Kutter Colton, something more than five miles of track, according to officials of the road here from San Francisco. Leo H. Landis, manager of the road, says the Fresno line will be built as soon as legal difficulties of obtaining the right of way can be overcome.

The Mahoney Bros. Company of San Francisco will have charge of the work. All material is said to be on the ground and the Railroad Commission has given permission to begin construction at Alhambra Heights will be enlarged.

Patterson, Cal.—Work has been resumed on the Patterson and Western railway after a delay caused by the late severe storms. A consignment of 17,000 ties has been received from Oregon, together with a large amount of hardware and bridge timber for construction work. The timber will be used in the bridge over Del Puerta Canyon. About eighty men are employed.

H. G. Gineca, president, and A. H. Tarleton, general manager, are on the ground directing the work. They are continuing the building of three miles beyond the proposed terminus, to the mines of the Pacific Coast Manganese Company in Ingram Canyon. The water and power lines are being constructed to the slopes of the company. Offices have been opened in the Plaza building.

Vina, Cal.—Sixty farms of 100 acres each are to be cut off from the great Stanford ranch of this district and thrown open to settlers who will be given leases on advantageous terms. As a further inducement each of the farms in the 6,000-acre tract will be provided with a good house and dairy barn.

The 6,000 acres which the management of the Stanford farm is setting aside is part of the great Stanford vineyard, the largest in the world. Now, that the present wine market is uncertain it is being destroyed after thirty-three years of production by the wage slave.

Three great tractors are at work at present pulling up the grape vines, and the skilled and unskilled wage slaves are burning more and more (and some more) hand-outs, not from the capitalist class, but from the class whose noses are continuing to grind on the grind stone. Wake up, you bum!

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS ACTIVE.

The Imperial Valley offers a good field for the A. W. O. and the boys are on the job getting new members as fast as possible. Picking peas now out of employment to 250 men in the vicinity of Brawley. These crews are a motley collection of Japs, Mexicans and Americans—the majority ignorant and unorganized. The next crop in rotation will be onions. They will employ at least 200 Japs and Mexicans. They, comprising alfalfa and grain comes in about the 15th of March. This, in the whole valley, employs about 1,000 men. Then comes cantaloupes, hood principally by Hindus, Japs and Mexicans and a few Americans, about 200 men in the field.

There is considerable improvement work, such as leveling lands, putting up fences, irrigation, etc. A few buildings have been put up. In the fall of the year is the cutting of Egyptian corn, about 30 days work and employing 1,000 men at so much per acre. The price per acre depends upon how much the corn has grown, the boss making sure the price is low enough to make the cutter work like hell to make \$2.00 per day and board himself.

During the summer rush about 6,000 men are employed. It is usually about 120 in the shade, 80 to 100 feet below sea level. Changing from one crop to another all the natives who have the coin go out on a vacation during the heat. Many men who cannot go themselves send their wives and families away. Those who are footloose leave even so they have to ride on a box car and beg their meals.

Thousands of acres are being planted in cotton, King Cotton. This embraces two kinds and several species—the Volunteer which they commence to pick the middle of August and the Planted which matures the 15th of September. There are the Big Roll, Egyptian-Dominion and other species. They work the same element—Mexicans, Americans, Japs, Hindus and Indians. The majority of these men are Mr. Blocks—all trying to get the job but not the money, one race competing against the other.

Brawley, Holiville, Calexico, Imperial and El Centro have a chain gang. Many of the men are charged with being poor and not earning a living—they call it vagrancy.

Press Committee, L. U. 439, I. W. W.

Listen.

Don't stick cotton sticks in a tree. Or now Johnn Johnson grass where hops should be.

Don't make hops stink, or the boss might be.

That Ford and Suhr will soon be free.

—Herbert Mahler.

JUSTUS EBERT DECLINES NOMINATION.

Thomas Whitehead,
The Industrial Worker Com.,
Seattle, Wash.

Fellow Worker—Kindly announce my declination of the nomination for editor of the Industrial Worker. I believe that the locals publishing the Industrial Worker should also provide the editor for it. If they haven't got one, they should develop one. We have plenty nowadays. Besides, I find more than enough work in behalf of our cause right here in New York City. Why then should I rush across the continent to help workmen who undoubtedly are well able to help themselves, if they only try hard way hard enough? They need the fact that it would cost them more than they need me.

This may sound rather brusque, but I hope that it is at least convincing.

With many thanks to those making the nomination, yours for Industrial Freedom,

JUSTUS EBERT.

"Wait not to be backed by numbers. Wait not till you are sure of an echo from the crowd. The fewer the voices on the side of truth, the more distinct and strong must be your own."—Channing.

FRESNO GETS A. W. O. BRANCH CHARTER.

Pursuant to the organizing policy of the California A. W. O. a mass meeting of hay hands and vineyard workers of California will be held in the court house park on "K" St. at 8 p. m., Saturday, May 6, for the purpose of determining the wage scale for the hay and fruit seasons of 1916. In order to secure funds to conduct the mass meeting and secure permanent branch headquarters for the A. W. O. in Fresno, a \$500 league has recently been formed by local union No. 66, to collect by subscription enough money to pay hall rent in the business district throughout the haying and grape picking seasons. Present local union headquarters will be maintained for the benefit of paid up members who desire to take advantage of modern accommodations recently secured by the local A. W. O. committee. The organizing of thirteen members, headed by Fellow Worker J. Manning, is in charge of all arrangements for the mass meeting. Under the head of elections a secretary will be chosen at the mass meeting by the rank and file of the California A. W. O. attending. The local committee has mapped out the following program for the benefit of the workers attending the mass meeting:

PROGRAM.

1. Chairman, Elected by A. W. O. members.
2. Song, "Workers of the Word Awaken."
3. Review of activities of Cal. A. W. O.
4. Poem, "The Song of Hate."
5. I. W. W. Press.
6. Organization.
7. Songs.
8. Line Up.

Address communications to J. Manning, P. O. Box 209, Fresno, Cal.

PROPER TACTICS WIN STRIKE.

A small strike recently occurred at the plant of the Great Western Smelting & Refining Co., in Seattle. All the employees, about twenty-five in number, went on strike for an increase of fifty cents per day. Twelve were I. W. W. members and a few more of the strikers joined. The boss hired scabs but among the scabs there was a great number of these kettens worked effectively on the inside and the pickets were equally active on the outside, with the result that the boss was soon willing to settle and readily granted the increase asked for. One picket was arrested and given five days for punching a scab in the face the next day. During the strike, this being one of the demands of the strikers. This shows that small strikes can be as easily won as large ones when the proper tactics are used.

ONE BIG UNION IN THE CALIFORNIA REDWOODS.

By JOHN PANCNER.

Napoleon once said, "These British Bulldogs, I hate them, I plow through them with my artillery, but they close up their ranks as if on parade."

So it is with the I. W. W. We have come back with the scale of the past to guide us. Let us hope that fake Industrial Unions, a Shingle-weavers, will not stampede the lumber workers again.

Press dispatches tell us that European capitalists, with ten million dollars capital, are negotiating to buy up all the standing timber in California.

It will mean that one single gigantic syndicate will control the lumber business of the state. It will mean that we cannot go out on strike in one camp or one mill at a time. We must have One Big Union of Workers, to meet, face, and fight the One Big Union of Alien Capitalists. These people are of our class, they are not interested in our needs or our welfare.

Men of the woods and mills, this summer is the time. Get ready for the long expected fight.

The spirit of war is in the very air. All the traditions of every liberty loving American call for battle. Rebels of California, we expect you to help us organize for the freedom of Ford and Suhr.

Those that mean business should get in touch with the Lumber Workers' Union of America, 321, I. W. W. Building, St. Paul, Cal. All aid should be addressed Box 533, Eureka, Cal.

MAY DAY ISSUE.

The Industrial Worker will publish its second issue two weeks from date. Following that will be No. 3, our May Day Issue, published so it will reach all locals before Sunday, April 30. Most locals will celebrate Labor's holiday on that date.

It is too early in our career to attempt an eight-page issue, but we can promise a number of exceptionally fine articles by the best writers in the labor world.

The quality of our May Day number as well as the re-awakened interests in revolutionary affairs on that particular date, should cause every local to give us an increased bundle order. Send your orders in at once.

CALLED TO ACCOUNT.

Teacher—"Johnny, if four men are working eleven hours a day—"

Johnny—"Hold on, ma'am. Nix on them non-union problems, please."—Puck.

DO IT NOW.

Certain postal regulations require that a publication must show a bona-fide paid-in advance circulation before being allowed the second class mailing rate. Unless such a list can be shown the cost of mailing is much higher. Until the Worker produces its list a deposit must be made to the post-office to cover the higher cost of mailing, the excess to be refunded when a subscription list of proper proportions is shown.

For this reason we want at once a large number of subscribers in addition to those already gained. We believe that the larger our list is, the more will be the amount of red tape to be gone through. If you intend to subscribe—Do It Now!

THE WRONG PLACE.

Defendant—(in a loud voice)—Justice! I demand justice!
Judge—Silence! The defendant will please remember that he is in a court room—Penn State Froth.

AVOID DUPLICATION.

Writers should not send the same article to more than one I. W. W. paper or committee of duplication will arise. News items may be sent in duplicate at these are generally rewritten, but such items should always be marked. Press committees often have to send out carbon copies of articles, but they, as well as the readers, will be better satisfied if no duplication occurs. Write duplicate sent on account of such copy so we may use our judgment in altering its form for publication.

WATCH THE PROFITS FLY.

Ford and Suhr are still in jail, and their lives are being ruined out because they have been duped to the working class. This is said to be something new coming this summer that will make the farmers of California howl their heads off and which may force the jail doors open. It is the Japanese fly, a little insect that found its way from Japan to the Philippines Islands where it was very active. On account of this fly only two kinds of fruits now leave the islands. This Japanese fly sent word that he is a friend of Ford and Suhr and so he would come over to help get these men out of jail. This fly has cost the fruit growers of the Philippines thousands and thousands of dollars already and before he finishes with the farmers of California it will be costing them a great deal of money to keep these two innocent men in that awful hell hole at Folsom. The little fellow multiplies very rapidly and he can be brought over here very easily. All that has to be done is to get a leaf with a few eggs on it and leave it out in the sun and let the sun do the work.

REBELLION.

Covington Hall's rebel monthly magazine voices the spirit of the revolutionary workers in the South. Subscription price, 50c per year. Single copies, 5c. Address, Rebellion, 520 Polaris St., New Orleans, La.

POOR LO.

Vagrant—"Sir, I was captured in infancy by the Indians and reared in ignorance of all civilized usages."
"Well, what of it?"
"Why, I don't know how to lie, cheat, steal, boast, bluff, or today, and I'm starving to death."—Life.

The A. W. O. allows 25 cents of their initiation fee as a subscription to any I. W. W. paper. This will pay for the Industrial Worker for three months. For a self-sustaining paper such as we propose to publish, 25 cents for 13 weeks is a bed-rock price.

Local Union No. 499, San Jose, Cal., at a regular business meeting raised the initiation fee to \$2.00 to go in effect April 1st, all new members from that date to get a six-month subscription for either of our weekly papers.—C. G. Anderson, Sec.

We are in receipt of a letter from Jay Smith in which he states that he lacks the time to prepare an article at present but may do so later. He urges a discussion of the "land problem," and hopes the Worker may never become conservative.

We are only a baby yet. Feed us on subs and bundle orders and watch us grow.

The I. W. W. Press

INDUSTRIAL WORKER.

Published Weekly by the Western Locals of the Industrial Workers of the World.
Box 1857, Seattle, Wash.

SOLIDARITY

English. Weekly, \$1.00 per year. Published by the I. W. W. Publishing Bureau, 112 Hamilton Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

"LA BERNUNKAS"

(The Wage Worker)
Hungarian. Semi-Monthly, \$1.00 per year. 350 East 81st St., New York, N. Y.

"DARINKINKU BALSAS"

(The Voice of The Workers)
Lithuanian. Weekly, \$1.50 per year, 869 Hollins St., Baltimore, Md.

"HT LICHT"

(The Light)
Flemish. Monthly, 50 cents per year. Franco-Belgian, Hall 9 Mason St., Lawrence, Mass.

"IL PROLETARIO"

(The Proletariat)
Italian. Weekly, \$1.00 per year. Gen. Del. Hannover, Boston, Mass.

"RE REBELLOS"

(The Rebels)
Spanish. Bi-Weekly, 50c a year. Bundle rate 2 cents per copy. Address all communications and remittances to Administrative, El Rebelle, Box 1279, Los Angeles, California.

"RABOCHAYA RECH"

(The Voice of Labor)
Russian. Weekly, 50 cents a year. Bundle rates 1 cent per copy outside Chicago. Address: 1146 South Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

"A LUZ"

(Light)
Portuguese. Semi-Monthly. Subscription 50 cents a year. Bundle rates 50 cent per copy. Address: 699 South First St., New Bedford, Mass.

"ALLARM"

(Alarm)
Swedish. Norwegian-Danish. \$1.00 a year. 232 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

"SOLIDARNOSC"

(Solidarity)
Polish. Semi-Monthly, \$1.00 a year. 307-164 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

AUSTRALIAN ADMINISTRATION

"Direct Action" (English). Weekly, \$1.50 per year. 330 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, N. S. W. Australia.

I. W. W. PREAMBLE

Our Principles:

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

THE I. W. W. IN NEW YORK

The Fight Against the Greedy Capitalist Development, Old Defeated, It Still Hopes to Win.

The revival of the Industrial Worker is to be applauded. The period of industrial activity that the country is now experiencing offers an opportunity for an extension of I. W. W. work and the development of the I. W. W. press to that end. Besides, all the papers composing the I. W. W. press should be as near to the scenes of their constituent activities and as stimulative to each other as possible. The Industrial Worker has always had a big field for itself in the Pacific Northwest. No doubt it can serve that territory best, while, at the same time, making some exemplary contributions to I. W. W. journalism that would be well for other I. W. W. papers to sit up and notice.

No I. W. W. paper can afford to be either sectional or competitive. Modern industry is worldwide. It tends to come from competition to cooperation in all its varied phases of development. This, too, despite all appearances to the contrary. The I. W. W. press should be world-wide and co-operative also, both in principle and practice.

The Industrial Worker, happily, shows no inclination to act in a contrary spirit. It proceeds to act according to industrial evolution as manifested throughout the civilized world. It has invited articles from all points of the compass, even including New York City, which, too often, is regarded as outside the industrial pale; though, very much in it, judging from modern capitalism. We have been asked to write "something pertaining to the New York situation" which we shall forthwith endeavor to do.

I. W. W. and Friendly Elements.

Of course, in a write-up of such a paper as the Industrial Worker, "the I. W. W. in New York City" is the first matter of interest.

There is, correctly speaking, very little I. W. W. organization in New York City.

There are locals, branches and propaganda leagues, but they are, for the most part, large in membership, not of immense influence and prestige. The I. W. W. press has some readers; one paper, the Hungarian, "A Ber-munkas" (The Wage Worker) is published here. Another the Jewish "Waker," it is believed, will be revived again before this article appears in print. Nevertheless, the influence and power of the I. W. W. press is not very great here.

The I. W. W. movement in N. Y. City is most largely composed of and dependent on elements that are friendly to it and that are connected with other organizations, through which the operation and promotion of I. W. W. strikes, movements and principles. The I. W. W. in New York City is largely a sympathetic movement resident in other organizations, inclined to progress or radicalism in unionism and society. This is at once a source of strength and weakness. It creates support outside of the I. W. W., while, at the same time, making it the dependent on and the playing of the elements contributing to this support. What is needed is a crystallization of I. W. W. sentiment into definite and self-supporting I. W. W. organization.

This situation arises from the peculiar local origin of the I. W. W. and the conditions that confront it. The New York I. W. W. began primarily with its supporters organized on the political instead of the economic field. They were originally and still continue to be, in larger extent, members of the two socialist parties. Of more recent years, the anarchists, radicals and advanced suffragettes have contributed to its members and supporters. There has also been a sprinkling of progressive as well as disgusted industrialists to help along the enterprise. Each of these has been the New York I. W. W. some of their own features. The result is a composite photograph that looks rather freakish in spots, to say the least unpleasant thing about it. It is a movement whose fathers are more generous than reasonable with its infantile strength and its infantile weakness.

The I. W. W. in New York City has never been able to strike root in proletarian soil independent of these sympathetic elements, and thus secure a beginning that would tend to create a movement all its own. It has appeared, somewhat with a certain degree of success, to workers outside of these elements, only to find itself unable to hold them. The fault was sometimes due to the freak notions of some of these elements. Sometimes it was due to theoretical and factional disputes, whose settlement in certain precise ways seemed of greater importance than practical organization on the job. But the fault was most largely due to the greater strength of the opposing forces of capitalism, which have always defeated the I. W. W., regardless of the theories or factions in control of it. As we look back it is surprising that the excesses of both have never recognized this fact and decided that the drawbacks to I. W. W. growth were not to be found so much inside as outside of it.

Great Opposition to the I. W. W.

It is almost ridiculous to think that such a small body as the I. W. W. can raise such a great opposition. We wouldn't believe it possible if we weren't somewhat vividly aware of the fact. The rain of shells at Verdun is nothing compared with the rain of malignity that pours down on and often threatens to drown out the I. W. W. This is due to the fact that the I. W. W. and the great strikes and strikes that have taken place in San Diego, Lawrence, Paterson and Wheatland, which they have made possible, despite un-

merical weakness and the opposing, overwhelming odds. The I. W. W. in New York City has been exempt from this campaign of slander and has suffered as a result of it. To get an idea of what this means, picture in your mind's eye, New York City as it really is, with its complex cosmopolitan civilization. Conjure up a consolidated city with five boroughs, divided by rivers and bays, with about 5,000,000 inhabitants, the leader in finance, shipping, commerce and industry on the continent, not to mention the organizations wherewith to mislead, befoul, bamboozle, divide, defeat and enthrall labor.

New York City is America's greatest port of entry and its greatest export. It is one of the finest harbors and the greatest shipping in the world. To it come most of Europe's immigrants and imports, from it go most of America's tourists and products. Its importance in a financial sense cannot be overestimated.

Here are the country's greatest banks and bankers, the great corporations which are launched the great schemes requiring giant financial resources. It has great hopes of becoming the world's financial center, as it is now, most likely, the world's greatest corporation center. Here are the great skyscrapers—blocks long and mountains high—that house the central offices of the greatest corporations. Here too are department stores of a size, capital and magnificence, architectural and otherwise, unknown elsewhere in this country. All the great railroads converge here, as do the country's idle, leisure and wealthy classes, for New York City is the hotel, theatrical, opera, literary, and social, as well as the financial, commercial and shipping center of the country. It is the leader in almost every human endeavor under capitalism.

New York an Industrial Center.

This is especially true of its industry. New York looms up so large in other respects that it is not so regarded as such from an industrial standpoint. However, it is claimed that, according to the 1910 U. S. Census, New York City practically manufactured 10 per cent. of all the goods produced in the United States. These products, it is said, reached the enormous total of over two billions of dollars, the largest amount of value of manufactured products in any state in the Union with the exception of the State of Pennsylvania, and exceeds the value of the combined output of Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee and Buffalo.

The Industrial Directory for 1913, the last one issued by the New York State Department of Labor, shows New York State to have 51,118 factories with 1,364,070 employees in that year. Of that number, 35,849 factories and 782,566 employees, or 57.4 per cent. are in New York City.

New York City is also the home of the Civic Federation, many powerful employer's associations and some of the most extensive industrial detective agencies in the United States. Every large corporation is identified with these organizations and is almost always anti-union in its attitude; besides having its own methods and personnel for the handling of labor questions and difficulties. Union with these the aid of a skillful press, the pulp, moving pictures, municipal governments, and plant politicians and political parties and one ceases to wonder that the corporations can beat the I. W. W. and cause it to remain small in New York City. The real wonder is that it has not been able to secure any local and, raise its head as threateningly as it has done at times, despite the weight of the highly developed capitalism above it that fain would keep it down.

New York City, as an I. W. W. stronghold, is not likely to inspire enthusiasm. It is an industrial center, and, therefore, there are a number of headaches and heartaches. But after all, we should worry; does not history show that the city which is often apparently the acme of power is in reality on the road to weakness and decline, like Rome and the great cities of antiquity, not to mention a few of the modern times for instance? And few who knows but what the recurrent ebbs and flows of capitalist tides may not bring opportunities for the growth of the New York I. W. W. in the future as it has done in the past?

Craft Unionism in New York City.

Like every other city in the Union, N. Y. City has its labor unionism, mainly A. F. of L. The unionism is strongest in the building trades, where certain highly specialized crafts, like the plasterers, are paid as high as \$5.00 a day. It is weakest on the traction lines, surface, subway and elevated, and in all the trust plants without exception, like those in the tobacco, sugar, linotype, machine, munitions, brew and cracker baking, rope making and other industries, which are not so highly corporatized, and which have a large number of workers who are socialists, or socialistically inclined.

New York City, according to a State Labor Department publication, has 763 unions, with 370,483 men and 61,595 women members, or a total of 432,078. This is for all occupations, such as transportation, domestic service, and theatres, restaurant, public employment, office workers, etc., besides factory workers. Compared with the 782,566 factory employees alone, it would appear as if less than one-third of all New York's workers are organized in the A. F. of L.

The A. F. of L. has tried to remedy this condition only to meet A. F. of L. opposition. In the shoe workers', longshoremen's, and other strikes where the I. W. W. was in control or exerted a great influence, it has

COAL-MINE ACCIDENTS

(Continued from page one.)

work out in court they did so at the cost of taking care of court expenses lawyers with their high fees, having their various mine bosses and other employees stay away from work to testify in courts, all of which involved in most cases more expenses than if the case had been won by the workers or compensated. Nothing short of a colossal lottery, such as the one they have paid the insurance "premium" on the workers. When any one is hurt it's up to him to see about it with the insurance company with its numerous executives, trained in the ways that many times leave the miner to shift for himself, open and empty. As for the outlay in "premiums" each corporation knows the amount and easily makes it up by speeding up the workers or taking the expenses into "consideration" when the miners are doing what is called "consideration work" which means that any one may be digging the bones of "allow" them five hours or only one—or even with less labor the company place it as additional to the selling price of coal. Against such conditions the U. M. W. of A. makes no demands that would place any one out of his working places in the hands of the workers.

The I. W. W. does ask that in each mine there shall be a committee representing the workers to decide when conditions are not safe for the workers' lives and limbs. The demands, that seem to interest the U. M. W. of A. officials are the contract—they say they may be digging the bones of "allow" them five hours or only one—or even with less labor the company place it as additional to the selling price of coal. Against such conditions the U. M. W. of A. makes no demands that would place any one out of his working places in the hands of the workers.

Mathews, president of the Haxton district, is reported to have added that recognition of the union and the check off system would make impossible "ridiculous strikes as the one at Greenwood," where the I. W. W. men struck because some of them found fault with the coal. The law abiding employers will help the labor leaders discipline any rebellious worker in the interest of "peace," and for favors returned by the labor lieutenants. President John P. White is reported to have said in New York: "The operators actually threaten to shut down the mine if recognition of the union than the miners. I trust and believe that they understand their own interests and will grant this fundamental demand. To the operators it means the assurance of uninterrupted operation of their mines, because no union when he is able to prevent untrained local strike."

The New York correspondent of the Scranton Times, under date of March 18, quotes one of the U. M. W. of A. officials as saying: "Recognition will also wipe out any chance of the industrial workers getting a foothold in the hard coal industry."

It's against past treason and contemplated and systematic treason that the I. W. W. is organizing the mine slaves of this region. The miners need an organization that will give them a chance to act for themselves. To contend, not only against the employers' association and big corporations, but also against the A. F. of L. that united with them to defeat the I. W. W. In the shoe workers' strike, for instance, it was the boast of the A. F. of L. and its allies that they had beat the I. W. W. The result is that less than one-sixth of New York's shoe workers are organized, while the independent craft organizations and the United Shoe Workers are battling for their very existence. In New York City, the A. F. of L. is a Civic Federationist and a Democratic Party institution. The Socialist Party occasionally revolts against it, only to serve it more hypocritically and hypocritically than ever before, when defeated as it always is. Some day it may win out; then we shall see what it will do.

I. W. W. in the Fight to Stay.

Meanwhile, the I. W. W. will go right on doing what it can to build up a strong organization in New York City. It is absurd to believe that a few men and women, who are neither much above nor much below the average worker in intelligence, ability, and courage, can overthrow and break down the well built, closely interlocked and interperpetrated capitalism, with its super-brains, legal class, journalistic, financial, police, etc., of which the greatest city in the Empire State and the Union of the United States boasts so much and so justly. Conditions alone would seem to make it impossible for the I. W. W. men and women to overthrow the power of the country or abroad. Capitalism is an albatross that weighs us down; but we make it shake every once in a while, in a manner that shows conditions to be with us. And finally we, with the same aid, will overthrow it. We refuse to weep over or get discouraged about the A. F. of L. in New York City. We shall continue to do our best for our growth and influence in the greatest city of the greatest capitalism in the world.

JUSTUS EBERT.

New York City, N. Y., U. S. A.

THE WAR IN AMERICA

American Government No Less A Despotism Than Those at War Abroad.

This generation the world over is having its sensibilities deadened to casual and ordinary horror. We lose the concept of disaster. We shall cease to be appalled. No terrestrial catastrophe can now alarm us. Nothing short of a colossal comet clattering up the earth with the wreckage of interplanetary mishap will excite in us a feeling of more than passing interest. Wretched are we when bragging of our civilization, we grow weary of monotonous misery and the fountains of sympathy are drained of the last drop of pity. As the shadows of our lives fall further and ever further to the eastward and when the young shall marvel at some quake of earth, some city wiped out by fire or flood, great areas enflamed or pestilence stricken, when a future Titanic with its burden of a few paltry millions of human beings shall sink to ocean crypt we shall turn wearily and say that it is nothing to what happened in our time.

With great amplification of detail and enlargement of rumor the daily papers feed us to the point of nausea. These sensation papers, as if they were guides in hell, first each other in headlines and cartoons seeking to engage us in the cumulative feelings of the damnation. The magazines and reviews or print strained dissertations on the causes and probable outcome. Even the socialist and labor papers give themselves over to frenetic essays on the conflict abroad. Mistakenly the worker loses sight of his own war and is easily vanquished by the American despot. He ceases to be so much as a negligible antagonist of the enemy nearer to him, degrading, starving and badgering him at every turn.

Military Is Supreme Power Here.

Under cover of the vast publicity given events abroad and the deflection of interest in its doing, American capitalism with its militarism and all its retinue and brood of fatness and fortifies itself for rapine and loot, for piracy and conquest. Stripped of nursery verbiage and our idolatry for ancestral "heroes," our myths and symbols of freedom and all the gorgeous bunk of patriotism, our own country stands naked a class-enthroned imperialism and a libel on the nation's liberty. Upon the slightest occasion the civil authority gives way to the military. The military establishment is at all times the actual power in America and but little less so than the Prussian we condemn so much. It is in his military character as Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy that the President is absolute and this power is ever at his hand. With none to say him nay he sends an army here and a navy there as rapidly as does the Kaiser. It follows that with us the military is supreme. It dominates the country and translates the national ideal into a military ideal. Upon the state of Liberty, makes a harlot of Columbia and gives the lie to Freedom.

In the nature of things a military establishment can never be other than despotic. Under it a colonel is a duke, a general a prince, the private soldier a serf, with no by your leave to any electoral self-respectful barber in Butte refuses to shave a national guardsman. Forthwith an appalled whippersnapper sends the barber to prison for lese majesty, or as we say it for insulting the flag.

Civil Authorities Have Despotic Military Power.

Our official militarism does not differ with the national government. Imperialism would not be quite complete if it did so, for the separate state governments exercise a sort of secondary sovereignty. To round out our military system the so-called civil service is armed, uniformed and kept on a military basis in every city and town in America. Incidentally their service is the suppression of crime. Their chief concern is the shepherding of slave herds. Moreover every county sheriff in the United States is empowered to "despoil" or impress into his service every citizen in the county. That this it more frequently done is due solely to the fact that occasion does not more frequently arise and not from lack of authorized power. It is in this manner that the semi-official militarism, the "detective" or "strike-breaking" agencies, swing into official action. These mercenaries infest every mining, industrial and transportation service in the

country. They are armed to kill. They do kill. Secret Orders Everywhere Are Military Castles.

We hear much of a Prussian military aristocracy. But what of our military castles in America beyond the swaggering regular army and the tame and frumpy militia? Hundreds of secret orders whose doing is solemnly proclaimed from public knowledge and whose combined membership run into millions of men have their uniformed military ranks. They have a pompous heraldry and balderdash of knight errantry fully as much to commend as the orders of the last could possibly inherit. They have their Great Exalted Rulers, Captains-General, Sovereign Grand Commanders, Imperial Potentates, High Priests, ad nauseum. Mistake not, they are no more goat-riding-horse-play. They are trained and drilled and disciplined. They are to control the order of the United States, to protect the people, to guard the Great Exalted Rulers, Captains-General, Sovereign Grand Commanders, Imperial Potentates, High Priests, ad nauseum. Mistake not, they are no more goat-riding-horse-play. 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